

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IOE-00 /105 W

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P R 271502Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 710

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 9893

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UN, US

SUBJ: COMMITTEE OF 24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO

REF: A. STATE 204749, B. STATE 211969, C. ADDIS ABABA 9220

1. POL COUNSELOR CALLED ON MOFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTOR TEFAYE MEKASHA AUG. 27 TO DISCUSS PUERTO RICAN ISSUE, DRAWING ON SUBSTANCE REF TELS A AND B. POL COUNSELOR ENERGETICALLY SOUGHT ETHIOPIAN SUPPORT FOR VOTING DOWN OR POSTPONING CONSIDERATION OF ANY C-24 RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD BRING PUERTO RICAN ISSUE BEFORE UNGA.

2. TEFAYE RECALLED THAT UN RESOLUTION 748 (VIII) HAD IN EFFECT "DECOLONIZED" PUERTO RICO AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT FOR UN TO REOPEN PERIODICALLY SUCH CLOSED MATTERS COULD ESTABLISH UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT FOR OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL. IN ETHIOPIA'S OWN CASE, THERE WAS CERTAIN PARALLEL BETWEEN PUERTO RICO AND ERITREA. HE SAID EPMG, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NON-ALIGNED STATUS IT HAD ADOPTED OVER LAST YEARS, WOULD NORMALLY TAKEN AN ANTI-COLONIAL, ANTI-IMPERIALIST POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF THIS KIND, BUT MUST ALSO BALANCE SUCH CONSIDERATIONS AGAINST ITS OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS. HE

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TOOK NOTE OF SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH US VIEWED MATTER

AND INDICATED THAT ETHIOPIA'S DECISION ON PUERTO RICO WOULD BE WORKED OUT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AND CONVEYED TO ITS DELEGATE IN NEW YORK.

3. ON LEAVING OFFICE, TESFAYE'S DEPUTY PROMISED TO CALL EMBASSY AS SOON AS DECISION MADE. ON BALANCE, WE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT WHICH ETHIOPIA WOULD PROBABLY PREFER NOT TO TAKE A STAND ON PUERTO RICAN PROBLEM, MOFA AT LEAST, UNDERSTANDS OUR CONCERN. WHETHER THEY CAN INFLUENCE THE DIRG TO PERMIT ETHIOPIA TO ABSTAIN ON UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION OR VOTE FOR POSTPONEMENT (USUN 3473), HOWEVER, IS NOT CLEAR.

4. INSTRUCTIONS IN STATE 193389 WERE CARRIED OUT AUG. 5 (ADDIS 9220). POL COUNSELOR REITERATED REQUEST FOR SUPPORT AUG. 27 (SEE PARA 1 ABOVE).
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 AUG 1976
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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